

Notes on the Interrogation Research Branch, Security Office

This branch conducts its own training program for polygraph operators. The program was established with the assistance of the Office of Training which has been called upon subsequently in a consulting capacity and to furnish training aids in the form of charts and slides. The course includes six weeks in the elements of physiology and psychology; this being a part of a six months course of study. Either before the prospective operators commence their training or before the completion of the first six weeks, the individual undergoes a psychological assessment to predict his measure of success as an operator. This is the only working relationship with the Assessment and Evaluation Division.

Requirements for operators for overseas assignment, and the desirability of obtaining operators with ability to speak a foreign language has added another element in the selection process. Fluency in speaking a foreign language is now a requirement and prospects are tested for speaking proficiency by personnel of the Foreign Documents Division or, in certain cases, sent to Georgetown University for testing.

The branch has a training staff of three people, two of whom are psychologists, but not identified as such on the T/O.

The polygraph machine and interrogation processes impinge upon assessment and, to a degree, upon psychiatry. A close working relationship exists between this Branch and the Psychiatric Division. Inasmuch as the polygraph machine records certain aberrations, it uncovers suspected mental disorders which are turned over to the Psychiatric Division for diagnosis and care. Contrariwise, the Psychiatric Division obtains, when desirable, confirmations or contradictions from a polygraph test of suspected emotional disturbances.

Notes on Office of Communications, ^{The} Communications Training Branch

The Branch conducts its own specialized training program for operators. In 1952 663 tests were administered to determine basic knowledge of radio circuits. These were conducted both in the field and at headquarters. The current amount of testing is about 10 cases per month in addition to approximately 5 cases per month for Staff and Contract Agents.

The branch utilizes the service of the Testing and Evaluation Division, Personnel Office for general intelligence and clerical ability tests. These tests frequently become of importance in determining the adaptability of the



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Notes on the Foreign Documents Division, Office of Operations

The testing activity in this division consists of administering language comprehension tests conducted by Division personnel. Their testing covers ability to read, comprehend and to translate accurately, and is designed primarily for personnel to be utilized within the Division itself. The Division also on few occasions conducts the same type of testing for other offices within the Agency. The Testing and Evaluation Division, upon request, conducts general intelligence type tests and may conduct a basic language aptitude test for the Division. If a prospective employee lives such a distance that it would not be practical to bring him into Washington for testing, preliminary general intelligence and language aptitude tests are conducted by

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field recruiters. Approximately 50 language comprehension tests per month are conducted by the Division.